

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Stevenson, Kirsten](#)
Subject: We Can Do Better
Date: Tuesday, June 16, 2020 1:30:25 PM

Hello Ms. Stevenson,

I was directed by the Office of the Mayor to reach out to you. I am a 3rd year medical student at McMaster University and I am emailing you to advocate for the needs of struggling Hamiltonians.

Less fortunate members of our society rely on people like you to champion their basic human rights and act proactively to ensure their rights are respected and they are treated with dignity. The global pandemic has disproportionately affected vulnerable populations in ways that are not immediately obvious to people in positions of privilege. We can do better for individuals experiencing homelessness, those suffering from mental illnesses (who are over-represented in our homeless population), trans youth, and those that are socioeconomically disadvantaged. Below is a list of tangible steps I believe will help us be more kind to our neighbours.

- 1. Stop ticketing people who are homeless*
- 2. Enact a moratorium on cleaning encampments on public lands as per available public health guidelines*
- 3. Work to quickly open more washrooms, showers, for people to safely be present in downtown and east Hamilton*
- 4. Quickly establish methods for distributing water while water fountains are shut down*
- 5. Take a housing first approach to helping people access non congregate housing options.*

Please feel free to reach out to me. I would love to work with you so we can all do better.

Kind regards,

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Sami Adham
BHSc, MD Candidate 2021